

Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp, Stable
Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern
Railroad
4 miles northwest of Osage
Weston County
Wyoming

HAER No. WY-23-A

HAER
WYO,
23-OSAGE.V,
1-1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp, Stable

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Location: Clay Spur Siding on the Burlington Northern Railroad,
4 miles northwest of Osage in Weston County, Wyoming

Date of Construction: Unknown

Present Owner: N. L. Baroid
Alzada Star Route
Belle Fourche, South Dakota

Present Use: Abandoned; site to be razed

Significance: The Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp is associated
with the early 20th century bentonite mining industry
in Wyoming and the United States. The Clay Spur
Bentonite District was the center of the pioneer
Wyoming bentonite industry and remained the premier
Wyoming producing district until reserves began to
dwindle in the 1950s. The plant embodies the
distinctive engineering technology of the bentonite
industry. The camp also reflects early twentieth
century company town architecture with simple
buildings and floor plans that could be quickly and
cheaply constructed and adapted to many different uses.

The stable is a one-story wood frame building (18.2
feet east-west by 38 feet north-south) with a gable
roof covered with corrugated tin sheeting. The
exterior walls are covered with board and batten
siding. It does not appear on the 1940 layout of the
camp, but is shown on the 1957 layout as "stable."
The interior currently retains portions of electrical
switch boards and possible turbine or generator parts.

Historian: Robert Rosenberg
Historical Consultant

July 1989

NOTE: For more information, see Clay Spur Bentonite Plant and Camp,
HAER No. WY-23.